

[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is mirrored and difficult to decipher.]

not intending however to ^{have} used it as a "threat", as
you seem to have rec^d it; but merely to express my
feelings in regard to the necessity of ~~this~~ punctuality;
and ^{to intimate} that I could not get along when it was not
regarded. —

I hope this freedom between us will strength-
en, rather than weaken, the bonds of our friendship —
& on my part I feel sure of this result — remem-
bering that "faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the
kisses of an enemy are deceitful"

Now, with regard to your finances, if you are
indebted to any one, please tell me in all freedom,
the amt — And I will endeavor to devise some
means for your relief —

With my best regards for the welfare
of yourself & family, I remain your attached friend
Saml Philbrick

once occurred to me; I expressed myself in great freedom, because of the friendship which has always from our earliest acquaintance subsisted between us - and I was not aware of giving you the slightest occasion of thinking that I "seemingly treated your delay as a purposed wrong"; this idea never entered my heart

With regard to punctuality in getting the Liberator to the Press. - I supposed there had been many omissions or delays; as friend Wallcut had repeatedly spoken to me in regard to this, with much feeling - and gave me to understand that he could not possibly get along under this embarrassment, and knowing, as I did, your natural tendency to procrastination, & feeling this to be a matter of business that could be rectified, as well as to suffer its continuance, I expressed myself in terms which you seem to think "too summary" - Perhaps they were so, but I claim some extenuation on this point, from the fact, that I have ever considered punctuality the life & success of all business - & without it there can be neither - & it has ever been my practice to conscientiously perform this duty - and to this may be, in great measure, imputed my success in every undertaking of a business character. And I have such a feeling of impatience at negligence on this point, that I never have, & I think I never could, submit to be connected with it; unless I conceived it to be a duty under some particular or mitigating exigency - I offer this as an explanation to my summary language

Brookline Jan. 5. 1854

My Dear friend

I very much regret ~~having~~ made use of any language in my former letter, that you could have construed as "susceptible of impeaching your Moral integrity" - Nothing could have been further from my feelings - Mr. May had informed me that he had repeatedly urged your rendering in your account, & spoke very feelingly his regrets at your delay and I supposed that all your journeys to Ohio & Michigan & to Philad'a were to be taken into your account & expected to have a long account of contributions, & a large balance to pay you; & I felt apprehensive that your omitting to render your account in time to be included in the Treasurer's Yearly Acc't, would cause some jealousies to operate against you - I did not need any explanation to satisfy me of the cause; for this I perfectly understood: - ~~and~~ My fears that your omission would operate to your injury in the minds of the (as I suppose) numerous contributors, induced me to speak in that frank unguarded language that will not be misconstrued among true friends, whose feelings & objects are perfectly understood by each other - And if I have in the least degree wounded your feelings I sincerely regret it - Nothing could have been further from my intentions. - The idea of ~~that~~ any thing designedly wrong on your part, never